

REMARKS

The Official Action dated May 17, 2005 has been carefully considered. Consideration of the changes and remarks presented herein are believed sufficient to place the present application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-16 and 18-29 remain in the present application and are believed to be in a condition for allowance. Claims 2 and 17 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 9-12, 15-16, 18-19, 21, 23 and 25-29 have been amended. Support for these claim amendments can be found within the specification. Thus, the amendments do not involve any issue of new matter.

In the Official Action, claims 1-29 were objected because of the description of the graft polymer curative. In light of the claim amendments to the independent claims 1, 15, 16 and 29, Applicants believe these objections are now moot.

Claims 1, 13, 14 and 16 were rejected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements. In light of the amendments to independent claims 1 and 16 adding the language directed to the "urethane prepolymer," Applicants believe that this rejection has been overcome and respectfully request reconsideration.

In the Official Action, claims 1-7, 8-14, 16-21 and 23-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Beach et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,874,172) in view of Robertson (U.S. Patent No. 4,504,313). The Examiner contends that Beach et al teach the manufacture of a developer roller for an electrophotographic device having the elements of the claimed polyurethane mixture. Moreover, the Examiner suggests that Robertson teaches adding a polyfunctional siloxane graft polymer to a moldable polyurethane-forming composition as an internal release agent to obviate the need for coating the mold prior to making a polyurethane molded part. The Examiner notes that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to add the siloxane graft polymers taught by Robertson to the roll-forming composition taught by Beach et al so as to eliminate the need for external release agents in the roll-forming process.

Beach et al generally disclose developer rollers used in electrophotography, more specifically, rollers having a surface with a high electrical resistivity layer (abstract).

Robertson discloses blends of polyols and polyamines containing internal mold release agents consisting of certain polysiloxanes having pendent organic groups which leave

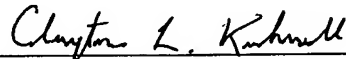
Serial No. 10/755,904
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functional hydroxyl, amino or mercapto groups useful in preparing mold releasable resin moldings when made by the reaction injection molding technique (abstract).

It is well settled that the question of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. § 103 is not what the person skilled in the art could have done but rather would have been obvious for such a person to do. *Orthokinetics, Inc. v. Safety Travel Chairs, Inc.* 1 U.S.P.Q.2d 1081, (Fed. Cir. 1986). Although Beach et al generally teach having developer rollers made of polyurethane materials, as noted, the reference fails to teach an additional graft polymer curative. For this, the Examiner relies on the teachings of Robertson. However, Robertson does not disclose the use of the polyurethane molds in association with developer rollers. Moreover, Robertson does not teach the advantages of using such additional graft polymer curatives to provide control for hardness and compression sets associated with a roller as described in the present application. Rather Robertson discusses the advantage of containing internal release agents, something quite different than the focus of the present application. Thus, the teachings of Robertson fails to suggest or motivate one skilled in the art to combine the Robertson molds and the rollers disclosed in Beach et al. As such, Applicants' believe the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome and respectfully request reconsideration of claims 1, 37, 8-14, 16, 18-21 and 23-28

It is believed that the above amendments and remarks represent a complete response to the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103 and 112, second paragraph, and as such, place the present application having claims 1, 3-16 and 18-29 in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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